

FAIRHAVEN COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Meeting Minutes January 30, 2019

Meeting held at Fairhaven Council on Aging, 229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven

Contact: cod@fairhaven-ma.gov

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FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

Present: Charles Murphy (chairperson), Anne Silvia (treasurer), Mark Rees (ADA coordinator), Maria Ruedlinger Walker (secretary), Joseph Borelli, Donna Lavalley, Ronnie Medina, Diane Rocha
Absent: Trina Brigham (vice chairperson), Marcus Ferro, Brian Rego, and Kelly Smith

I. OPEN MEETING

Chairman Charles Murphy opened the meeting @ 6:34 pm.

II. REVIEW OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

No meeting minutes from the commission meeting on November 28, 2018 were presented.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Anne Silvia reported our current budget at \$ 900. Diane Rocha moved to allocate \$ 400 for continued sign language classes, Ronnie Medina seconded. All voted in favor.

IV. TOWN INFORMATION

Mark Rees reported that an order has been placed for four more automatic door openers for Town Hall. Once installed, they will allow a person easier access to all levels of the Town Hall.

A Facilities Improvement Plan will be rolled out in a near future. The priority order for accessibility improvement on town facilities is as follows: 1. Police/Fire station, 2. School Administration building, 3. Council on Aging and the Recreation Center, 4. Town Hall.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. At Fairhaven Village Apartments, one handicap signage has a license plate number marked on it. This is a privately paid for parking space. At public parking spaces and at properties owned by the Fairhaven Housing Authority, reserved and privately marked handicap spaces cannot be offered.

2. No news on membership.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. No resent announcements from Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD).

2. Conflict of Interest Law Training: "Notice to all Municipal Employees" will be distributed to all commission members. The receipt has to be signed, and once the Conflict of Interest online training has been completed by a member, the Certificate of Completion has to be printed and brought to Anne Silvia at the Council on Aging. She will send all certificates to Town Hall.

3. No ADA updates.

4. The approved sign language classes are planned to run May 8 – June 26, from 6-7 pm. The classes are open to the public and will take place at the Fairhaven Council on Aging on 229 Huttleston Avenue.

5. Diane Rocha is stepping down as secretary for the Commission on Disability. Diane Rocha moved to appoint Maria Ruedlinger Walker as the new secretary. Ronnie Medina seconded, all voted in favor.

6. SRTA are evaluating the bus use in our area and will announce the results when the report is finalized.

7. On May 22, The NH and MA Alzheimer Association chapters are inviting Alzheimer and dementia care providers to an all-day conference "A Map through the Maze". For more information, visit:
<https://www.alzmassnh.org/map/>.

VII. THE NEXT MEETING will be held on March 27 @ 6.30 pm at the Fairhaven Council on Aging.

VIII. STATUS ON DISABILITY ISSUES IN TOWN

Mark Rees mention that the town has received an ADA complaint about limited accessibility at the polling station at the Fire station on Washington street. The building Department is looking into the matter.

IX. CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

No other business to discuss. Diane Rocha motioned to adjourn, Ronnie Medina seconded. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned @ 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Ruedlinger Walker